



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

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FEBRUARY 25, 2004
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEXICAN MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO TRANSPORTING ILLEGAL ALIENS

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Mexican man pleaded guilty in federal court today to transporting four illegal aliens.

Salomon Macedonio-Vergara, 23, a citizen of Mexico, waived indictment and pleaded guilty before U.S. Magistrate Judge James C. England this afternoon to a federal information that charges him with transporting four undocumented aliens. Today's information replaces a criminal complaint filed against **Macedonio-Vergara** on Feb. 19, 2004.

According to an affidavit filed in support of the original criminal complaint, a Missouri State Highway Patrol trooper stopped a 1995 GMC Safari driven by **Macedonio-Vergara** for traffic violations shortly after 10 p.m. on Feb. 13, 2004, on eastbound U.S. Highway 60, west of the city of Dunn in Texas County, Mo. **Macedonio-Vergara** and 11 undocumented aliens were taken into custody by the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the affidavit says, after it was determined that they were in the United States illegally.

The illegal aliens were allegedly being transported from Phoenix, Ariz., to Lexington, Ken.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Douglas C. Bunch. It was investigated by the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow